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Defense Acts to Improve Bachelor Living Conditions

A Department of Defense program to improve living quarters for bachelor officers and career enlisted personnel will begin in FY 1968.

A memorandum from Deputy Secretary of Defense Cyrus Vance to the service secretaries said that beginning in FY 1968, personnel in grades E-7 through 0-3 will be permitted to live off-base, providing minimum standards of adequacy for occupancy cannot be met on-base.

Additional conditions to be met before granting permission to live off-base and draw Basic Allowance for Quarters (BAQ) include:

- Authority will not be granted where vacant quarters are available and meet minimum standards of adequacy.
- Installation commanders must determine that the individual is not required by military necessity to live on-base.
- All bachelor facilities accepted for beneficial occupancy after Jan. 1, 1958—as a result of new permanent or semi-permanent construction or major modification of existing facilities—will be considered as meeting the minimum standard of adequacy.

Mr. Vance's memo also stated that, based on experience with the FY 1968 program, consideration will be given to extending the off-base living policy to lower graded career enlisted personnel in future years.

At present, by law, officers in grade 0-4 and above may elect to live off-base and draw BAQ.

Distinguished Unit Citation Redesignation Will More Properly Identify Award for Merit

The Distinguished Unit Citation will be redesignated Presidential Unit Citation within the Army with appropriate changes being made to regulations.

Several reasons were cited for the change. Foremost among these, an official said, is that the new designation more properly identifies the award, particularly to civilians.

The unit citation is awarded by the President for outstanding performance of duty in action.

VIETNAM STRATEGY—Rear Adm. David C. Richardson, USN, commander, Task Force 77, discusses joint air strikes against North Vietnam with Maj. Gen. Gordon M. Graham, USAF, vice commander of the 7th Air Force, based at Tan Son Nhut, South Vietnam.

Army Makes Policy Decision On Officer Specialist Program

A policy decision concerning Army's officer specialist program and career opportunities for high ranking officer specialists has been approved by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Harold K. Johnson.

The Chief of Staff approved the current specialist programs as being adequate in encouraging officers to develop a specialty.

Gen. Johnson's approval extends to career development for lieutenant colonels and above who have developed an expertise in depth. Some of these officers are involuntarily required to forego command for consecutive specialist assignments because of Army requirements.

The approved procedure now requires an appropriate notation be made in the official files of those involuntarily placed in consecutive specialty assignments. This information will be available to selection boards and activities concerned with the officer's personnel actions.

This new procedure allows affected officers to compete with their contemporaries for military and civilian schooling and other career development assignments.

Washington Memos

RECORD SPEED by Maj. William J. Knight, USAF, in X-15 flight has been increased from 4,159 mph to 4,233 mph and Mach number increased from 6.1 to 6.33 times speed of sound. New maximum speed was raised by engineers at Flight Research Center, Edwards AFB, Calif.

NEW COMMANDER OF U.S. Seventh Fleet Patrol Forces is RAdm. Damon W. Cooper, USN, who relieved RAdm. Roy M. Isaman. Adm. Isaman received Legion of Merit upon his relief for devising and carrying out "an ingenious plan for the orderly improvement of the operational readiness of the Seventh Fleet Patrol Forces."

DESPITE HAMPERING OF OPERATIONS by tropical storms, Army's 1st Logistical Command established a record for unloading military and U.S. Agency for International Development ship cargoes in Vietnam during November, discharging nearly a half-million tons of supplies and equipment.

DOD STATISTICS REVEAL that 6,319 U.S. service personnel have lost their lives in hostile force actions in RVN from Jan. 1, 1961 through Dec. 10, 1966. Additionally, 1,455 were killed or died in non-hostile actions.

ASSEMBLY AND CHECKOUT of equipment for SAC's Minuteman Wing VI at Grand Forks AFB, N.D., has been completed two weeks ahead of schedule. Wing VI is equipped with advanced Minuteman II ICBMs, and marks first emplacement of Air Force's newest ICBM, larger and longer-range than Minuteman I. Turnover increased Air Force's inventory of Minuteman ICBMs on strategic alert to 950 missiles in seven states.

NASA's OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP medal was presented to Maj. Gen. Vincent G. Houston, USAF, for his management of DOD launch, tracking and recovery team operations in support of Gemini missions.

VOLUNTEERS FOR VIETNAM duty from 4,000 member Air Force Nurse Corps far outnumber the some 100 nurse positions in that Southeast Asia country, according to Col. Ethel R. Kovach, chief of the AFNC. Col. Kovach just returned from a three-week tour of medical installations and facilities of the Pacific Air Forces.

PROJECT WEST, joint effort of Army and Air Force scientific teams, is making study of gunsmoke and missile propellant fumes which pose potential problems of impairing crew efficiency in Army's newer, more heavily armed helicopters in combat conditions in Vietnam.

POSTDOCTORAL RESIDENT research associateships are being offered by Air Force Systems Command through National Research Council to qualified applicants in 17 scientific branches during 1967 and 1968. Information may be obtained from Office of Scientific Personnel, Room 318, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418. Deadline for receipt of applications is Feb. 10. Selections are to be made about April 1.

THREE SURVEYOR soft-lunar-landing spacecraft have been eliminated from NASA's current budget planning. Decision was based on successful results obtained from Ranger project, two Lunar Orbiters and two Surveyors already launched. Five remaining Surveyor spacecraft are on order. Surveyor provides information about the moon to support Apollo manned lunar landing mission.

ASTRONAUTS CAPT. JAMES A. LOVELL JR., USN, and Lt. Col. Edwin E. Aldrin, USAF, have been awarded National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Exceptional Service Medal. Citation was for four-day Gemini 12 mission.

NAVY'S NUCLEAR POWERED attack submarine Lapon has been launched at Newport News, Va. Lapon, 292 feet long, is to be commissioned on Nov. 28, 1967.

TWENTY-FIVE AIR National Guard and Air Force Reserve Select Units achieved an all-time high manning level as of November, with 14 ANG tactical units reaching 95 percent and 11 AFR airlift units attaining 96 percent. It was noted that existing personnel deficits are due to scarcity of critical skill personnel, such as pilots.

ALIENS IN U.S. and possessions are required by Immigration and Nationality Act to report their address to the Attorney General during January. Serious penalties may result from failure to comply. Aliens temporarily absent from U.S. must report addresses within 10 days of return. Cards for reporting are available at any U.S. Post Office.

MUSEUM OF FLIGHT MEDICINE has been established at Aerospace Medical Division Headquarters, Brooks AFB, Tex. It is a central, permanent repository for collection of items relating to development of aviation medicine. Air Force has begun intensive search for old medical equipment, records for historic documentation, and other items that will enable Museum to complete displays.

RECENT SURVEYS INDICATE that some 30 percent of U. S. Marines seek dental treatment while in Vietnam. Dental treatment is provided by 65 Dental Corps officers, four Medical Service Corps officers and 140 dental technicians.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

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Background for Commanders

PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE*

I am glad to confirm on the basis of Ambassador Goldberg's report to me that agreement has been reached at the United Nations among members of the Outer Space Committee, including the United States, on a draft text of a treaty governing the exploration of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies.

In accordance with United Nations procedures, it is expected that a resolution endorsing the treaty will be submitted formally with broad cosponsorship along with the agreed text of the Outer Space Treaty.

We look forward to early action by the Assembly on this matter.

Progress toward such a treaty commenced on May 7 of this year when I requested Ambassador Goldberg to initiate consultation for a treaty in the appropriate United Nations body.

Most Important Development

After business-like negotiations within the United Nations Outer Space Committee in Geneva and at the U.N. in New York, this important step toward peace has been achieved.

It is the most important arms control development since the Limited Test Ban Treaty of 1963. It puts in treaty form the "no bombs in orbit" resolution of the U.N.

It guarantees access to all areas and installations of celestial bodies.

This openness taken with other provisions of the treaty should prevent war-like preparations on the moon and other celestial bodies.

Historical Significance for the Space Age

This treaty has historical significance for the new age of space exploration.

I salute and commend all members of the U.N. who contributed to this significant agreement.

In the expectation that formal U.N. action will have been completed at an early date, I plan to present the treaty to the Senate for advice and consent at the next session of Congress and I hope that the United States will be one of the first countries to ratify it.

TREATY ON PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE ACTIVITIES OF STATES IN THE EXPLORATION AND USE OF OUTER SPACE, INCLUDING THE MOON AND OTHER CELESTIAL BODIES

(Excerpts from Draft of Treaty)

The States Parties to this Treaty . . . Have agreed on the following:

- The exploration and use of outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, shall be carried out for the benefit of all countries and of all mankind.
- Outer space, including celestial bodies, shall be free for exploration and use by all States on a basis of equality and in accordance with international law.
- Outer space, including the moon and other celestial bodies, is not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty.
- States Parties to the Treaty undertake not to place in orbit around the earth any objects carrying nuclear weapons or any other kinds of weapons of mass destruction, install such weapons on celestial bodies, or station such weapons in outer space.
- The moon and other celestial bodies shall be used exclusively for peaceful purposes. The establishment of military installations, the testing of any type of weapons and the conduct of military maneuvers on celestial bodies shall be forbidden. The use of military personnel for scientific research or for any other peaceful purposes shall not be prohibited.
- States shall regard astronauts as envoys of mankind and shall render them all possible assistance in the event of accident or emergency landing. When astronauts make such a landing, they shall be safely and promptly returned to [their] States.
- Each State from whose territory an object is launched [into outer space] is liable for damage to another State.
- States shall avoid harmful contamination [of outer space and celestial bodies] and also adverse changes in the environment of the Earth.
- States shall consider on a basis of equality any requests by other Parties to the Treaty to be afforded an opportunity to observe the flight of space objects launched by those States. The nature of such an opportunity for observation shall be determined by agreement between the States concerned.
- All stations and vehicles on the moon and other celestial bodies shall be open to representatives of other Parties to the Treaty on a basis of reciprocity. Representatives shall give reasonable advance notice of a projected visit, in order that maximum precautions may be taken to assure safety and to avoid interference with normal operations in the facility to be visited.

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* *Excerpts from Statement by President Johnson on 8 December 1966 and excerpts from draft of Treaty.*

Army Moves to Improve Household Goods Service

Army has taken steps to improve household goods movement and service, ordering a thorough review of all policies and procedures.

Intent of the review is to make permanent change of station moves less burdensome on service members and dependents.

Installation commanders and transportation officers were also instructed to devote additional resources to the essential support activity. Service personnel were asked to take a more active role, checking performance and reporting any deficiencies.

STRATCOM Headquarters Moves to Ft. Huachuca

The Army's Strategic Communication Command (STRATCOM) Headquarters will be moved to Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., in a several months' phase, bringing together all elements now at scattered sites in the Washington, D.C. area.

The move will make a permanent station for the organization's 800 military and civilian personnel. Ft. Huachuca has been a communications-electronics post since 1953.

Air Force Schedules January ASW Course

Air Defense Command has announced the first 1967 course in USAF Anti-Submarine Warfare Indoctrination will be held Jan. 23 at San Diego, Calif.

Purpose of the five-day course is to provide principles and concepts to Air Force officers and comparable civilian employees who are unfamiliar with the subject. Course content includes general ASW considerations, submarine characteristics, recogtion and tactics.

Six more courses will be held during the first five months of the coming year. Three will be in San Diego and three at Norfolk, Va.

CANAL CONFERENCE—Maj. Gen. John M. Finn, right front, director, International Logistics, Army Materiel Command, Washington, D.C., and Capt. Reynaldo A. Garcia, left front, 4th Battalion, 20th Infantry, Ft. Clayton, inspect honor guard at first annual U.S. Army Section Chiefs' Conference held at Ft. Amador, Canal Zone. In second rank are, from left, Maj. Gen. J. D. Alger, commander, U.S. Army Forces Southern Command, and Maj. Gen. Charles J. Denholm, commanding general, Army Security Agency, Department of the Army.

New Navy Group Speeds Missile Repair Parts

A Navy logistics group has been set up to speed urgently required electronic and ordnance repair parts to ships equipped with Terrier, Tartar, Talos and Basic Point Defense surface missile systems.

The Surface Missile Systems Logistics Group is at the Navy Electronics Supply Office, Great Lakes, Ill. It will help fill high priority requisitions for ships under construction and those already in the fleet.

Work will be done directly with manufacturers. Group members will serve as liaison between the electronics supply office and the Missile Engineering Station, Port Hueneme, Calif., which has technical direction over the group.

Missile systems to be currently supported are on guided missile escort ships, destroyers, cruisers, carriers and frigates.

Army Pilot Training Gets Temporary Increase

A temporary increase in the number of Army pilots to be trained has been approved by Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara.

All primary helicopter training, now conducted at Ft. Wolters, Tex., will be expanded to handle the training load, increased from 410 to 610 pilots monthly.

Advanced flight training and transition training are carried out at the Army Aviation Center, Ft. Rucker, Ala. Ft. Rucker is now operating at capacity, making it necessary to find additional facilities for advanced helicopter training.

After a review of available facilities, it was decided to extend temporarily the close-out of Hunter AFB, Ga., beyond July 1967, and use its facilities in conjunction with Army's nearby Ft. Stewart, Ga., post.

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